

From: Joe Howard
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 9:00pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I would like to take this opportunity to voice my opinion on the Microsoft Anti-trust case. I feel that Microsoft's actions have harmed not only competitors but more so, consumers. It is a tragedy that the pro-business stance of many in this country allows consumers to be hurt by high prices, less competition, and in my opinion, inferior products. In addition I feel that the proposed settlements do almost nothing to end Microsoft's predatory practices by allowing Microsoft to side step any attempt at regulation. The proposed settlements also do nothing to punish Microsoft for its past misdeeds and repeated law breaking.

Personally I feel that the only effective solutions would be those that are able to neutralize Microsoft's monopolies to foster competition and true innovation in the computer industry. If not, I fear that the current economic state of the computer industry and the lack of innovative products will continue for a long, long time. Please don't let my fears become reality by giving Microsoft yet another slap on the wrist.

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